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**Cover:** Reflections on the glass walls of the interior courtyard of the Kent Memorial Library in Suffield lend a touch of the holiday season to this issue of Connecticut Architect. The library, designed by Warren Platner & Associates of New Haven, was one of nine projects in the state to receive Honor Awards for 1974 from the Connecticut Society of Architects. The jury comments, descriptions and photographic presentations of the winners begin on page 10.

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## from the CSA

#### From the President

As 1975 is about to get underway, economic forecasts show a cautious, slow recovery. Much can be learned about survival in times such as these, and it is hoped that efforts made to broaden the effectiveness of the CSA/AIA to its membership have been of some value.

Our educational programs have been directed primarily at management and marketing techniques, with special emphasis on the determination of cost of services. These courses were made available at the request of the membership and in preparation for the time when our current fee tables and method of percentage compensation may be withdrawn. We are again in the process of discussing this matter with counsel and the Board to determine how to serve best the interests of the profession and the buyers of our services.

We are trying to improve upon our legislative effectiveness and will most likely be working with the Connecticut Business and Industry Association's program during the next legislature year. The Chapter has been a member of CBIA over the years, but has not used the resources which are available to us. We believe that our new programs can be more effectively brought into law and that we can have a better window on the legislature through cooperation with the CBIA.

The state's construction industry has some extremely capable people, without whom our efforts in building design would be of little value. This entire industry has been

slowly joined together for the purpose of improving the way it works. We have many problems in this area, but we also have many people who are now exploring solutions which will better prepare us for the future. We can't solve the many needs of the future with yesterday's tools or attitudes. We believe improvements in this area will be beneficial to all of us.

CONNECTICUT ARCHITECT has been an asset to us this year by expanding our horizons. It is not only a showplace for our work, but it is also on its way to becoming a reporting tool. With your cooperation and suggestions, it can be an even greater asset. We had hoped to develop a viable public relations program this year through the profits from CONNECTICUT ARCHITECT, as no funding was provided in our budget in 1974 for this item. However, our plans have not been realized. The article in this issue, entitled "Putting Your Best Foot Forward," by Paul F. Vey of Russell Gibson von Dohlen, and the resources recently made available to the Chapter office are now a start on what we hope will be a helpful program in the years ahead.

My sincere thanks to all of you who have made these accomplishments possible. We have started a lot of things and made a few changes. We are, as I noted in my initial letter, "all searching for new areas in which to work, for better ways of using our abilities, and for quicker ways of delivering buildings and controlling cost ... It is my hope and plan that we can rise to the challenge of these times, using the problem solving talents we possess to

change some of the inequities in our present, not so perfect, system and come out of this period as better architects and better businessmen. We have for too long operated below our potential and have not prepared properly for the future."

David N. LaBau, AIA

#### From the Executive Director

Over 70 CSA members attended the October 23 Chapter meeting, which was devoted to Chapter affairs. The main topic discussed was the dues proposal.

The proposal calls for Corporate dues to start at \$40.00 per year, increase in five one-year increments, and level off at \$120.00. Dinners are not to be prepaid by Corporate members dues. The low initial figures are to encourage young practitioners to join the AIA as Corporate members. Professional Affiliate and Professional Associate dues are to be increased to \$60.00, and Associate dues are to be raised \$5.00—to \$30.00. Supplementary dues are to be increased in this proposal to \$30.00 per architecturally-oriented employee.

No vote was taken, but Treasurer Rick Schoenhardt, who described the dues proposals, received an affirmative response from a majority of those in attendance when he asked whether dinners should not be prepaid by corporate dues, if dues should be increased so that the Chapter's activities could increase, and that supplementary dues be continued.

Copies of the proposed new bylaws were mailed to all members so that a vote on





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dues structure and other bylaw changes could be taken at the December 5 meeting.

President-elect Robert Wilson has chosen his commissioners for 1975. They are Willis Mills of New Canaan, Design and Environment; James Evans of Stamford, Professional Practice; Phyllis Olson of Hartford, Chapter Affairs; Donald Baerman of New Haven, Education; Allan Dehar of Branford, Community Services; and Richard Foster of Greenwich, Government Affairs.

The CSA continuing education program has presented a clinic on Cost Determination and Control, conducted by Robert Keane, CPA. Mr. Keane is treasurer of Fletcher-Thompson, Incorporated. The six-session Management SuperCourse, developed by Michael Buckley, ended on December 17.

The Chapter has been complimented by the Continuing Education Department of the AIA for its active and diverse professional development programs.

Members of the CSA will be able to learn the names and locations of companies that have been provided funds through bonds issued by the Connecticut Development Authority in a cooperative program between the Authority and the Chapter office. The Authority will forward the names and locations of companies receiving funds on the second Tuesday of each month. Chapter members are invited to call the CSA office for these names on the afternoon of the second Thursday of each month.

Connecticut architectural firms are reminded that the Chapter office is trying to make its employment clearing house more helpful to those out of work. Any firm so fortunate as to need help should call the Chapter office for prompt service on resumes.

Another service the office wants to expand, but needs members' cooperation to do so, is the distribution of news releases on its members. The Chapter w write and distribute to appropriate newspapers releases on newsworthy accomplishments of CSA members. We welcome stories on honors received, appointments to offices and appointments to positions in local government or area associations.

Peter H. Borgemeister

## **CSA Installs New President**

Robert L. Wilson, AIA, of Stamford, was installed as president of the Connecticut Society of Architects at the annual dinner meeting on December 5, 1974. He succeeds David N. LaBau, AIA, of Golden, Thornton, LaBau in West Hartford.

Other officers installed were Richard E. Schoenhardt, AIA, of Simsbury, as vice president; Phyllis V. Olson, AIA, of Hartford, as treasurer; and Michael P. Buckley, AIA, of DuBose Associates, Hartford, as secretary.

A graduate of the University of Illinois, Wilson earned his Master's degree in urban design from Columbia. His own firm



Robert L. Wilson, AIA

of architects and planners is located in Stamford, with a branch office in New York City.

Active in architectural and civic organizations locally as well as nationally, Wilson has lectured at Yale University and for the National Association of Home Builders. A co-founder and director of the National Organization of Minority Architects, he served as vice president of the CSA in 1974.

# DESIGNING A HOSPITAL?



The increase in costs, training and admissions coupled with shortages of doctors, nurses and technicians have caused hospital administrators to look to sophisticated communications systems as one answer to their problems. Tomorrow's hospital will require a wide spectrum of communications facilities including voice, data and video systems. Underficor ducts, conduit and riser systems, switchboards and apparatus closets must be planned early. Expensive rearrangements and unsightly exposed wiring can be avoided later on.

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It is written in the fine hieroglyphs of an obscure Egyptian tomb that one Imhotep, some 4,600 years ago, was history's first architect. His major work was King Zoser's famous "stepped pyramid," a design gimmick inspired, no doubt, by zoning laws similar to those in New York City. It is of special interest that, either because of or in spite of his professional achievements, Imhotep was worshipped as a god in his final years.

Daedalus, his legendary counterpart, did not follow in Imhotep's hallowed footsteps. He made the architectural headlines, to be sure, by designing the fabled labyrinth for King Mynos, but his experiments in space flight were disastrous, and his last public act was to murder his talented nephew and colleague, Talos, by throwing him off a cliff.

History is well documented with records of other architects who, through their extra-curricular penchants, have extended the purlieu of what really is the first of all professions. Da Vinci, for example, played a mean lute, and Michelangelo dabbled not a little in poetry. Thomas Hardy abandoned architecture, his first love, and gave himself completely to the novel.

Recently, many new personalities have appeared who, for accomplishments not even remotely associated with the art of building, are granted the title "architect." Here are a few random examples gleaned from the fields of war, politics, economics, sports and crime. Pierre Salinger, writing in the April 20 SR/World, referred to Carlos Andres Perez as "the architect of the counter-guerilla forces . . . . . in Venezuela." Sanche de Gramont, in the New York Times for November 15, 1970, called Carlos Marighella "an architect of the revolutionary violence that has erupted in Brazil." Rod MacLiesh, in a recent broadcast over radio station WINS, spoke of Yitzhak Rabin as "architect of Israel's military success in Syria.'

The average licensed architect (and that includes some 38,000 practitioners) is likely to be mildly stimulated by the use of the term "architect" in a military context. Every architect has a touch of Walter Mitty in his make-up, and there is not one who would not, for an exciting moment at least, trade his drafting-board and T-square for a set of captain's bars and a safe but commanding view of the battlefield.

He may, in fact, enjoy the romance of identification in almost any area he chooses. Ward Greene, in the May 21 issue of *SR/World*, called Walter Heller "the ebullient architect of U.S. economic expansion in the sixties." This brand of journalism will help spawn a whole new generation of "ebullient" architects, all of whom are known to thrive on this sort of expansion. But one wonders, in passing, why was the term "architect" used? It adds neither color nor realism to the content of the article. Why not, "engineer," "magician," or just "economist?"

At about the same time, Shiek Yamani was referred to by Mike Wallace, in "Sixty Minutes," as "chief architect of King Feizal's foreign policy." David Alpern, writing in SR/World, predictably awarded the title "Architect of U.S. Foreign Policy" to Henry Kissinger. Finally, Alan Shaw, of Station WINS, gave appropriate credit to President Nixon and Party Chief Brezhnev as "principal architects of East-West Detente."

The sports writers, meanwhile, with characteristic elegance, have given the term a fresh turn. Gary Davidson, who in an earlier article was dubbed "architect of the World Football League," was elevated in the July issue of *Time* to "an acknowledged master-builder in the field." In medieval times, this was as high as you could get, and even among today's card-carrying architects it is high praise.

One will agree that the undisciplined use of the term by this time becomes a little far-fetched. Its random application, of course, is by no means new. The Oxford Dictionary long ago opened the doors wide with the definition: "Architect — one who designs and frames any complex structure" and adding a gracious afterthought, "especially the Creator."

George Grote, the English historian, named Homer "architect of the Iliad"; he might also have added that Tekton, not yet a fully accredited master-builder or "arch-tecton," was a carpenter on Odysseus' ship. Thomas Jefferson, whose contributions to the panorama of actual building are unquestioned, was cited along with James Madison, (Raoul Berger, New York Times, July 8, 1974, et al ad inf.) as one of the "architects of the constitution" as well. A near-parallel occurs in the early Fifties. Wallace Harrison, with some dubious assistance from Le Corbusier, designed the United Nations

Building. But from history's vantagepoint, the real "architect of the United Nations" is Holland's Trygve Lie.

The use of the term is by no means limited to the more socially acceptable enterprises. Catherine Mackin, of CBS, spoke of "the architect of the program to use federal funds to favor friends of the administration." And if I may dredge deep into memory's musty files, one Johnnie Rainbow was cited not as "alledged perpetrator," following current police jargon, but as "architect" of Britain's \$7½ million train robbery in 1963. His companion, Charles Wilson, was "architect" of one of the greatest of modern escapes.

The most flagrant case of character assassination by metaphor, however, may be found in Shakespeare's, Titus Andronicus. In Act V he refers to Aaron as "this barbarous, irreligious Moor, this ravenous tiger, this acursed devil," as "chief architect and plotter of these woes." Now it may be flattering to the architect to be mentioned, if only once, in the bard's vast glossary. But when the nation's 300 black architects find their brother and colleague directly identified with "woes" which include "Enter messenger, with two heads and a hand," "Enter Lavinia, ravished, her hands cut off and her tongue cut out," and "He cut their throats" and climaxed by a total of seven murders, ending up buried breast-deep and left to starve to death, they may justifiably rise up in unison and demand some form of public retribution. This is hardly the sort of publicity that is going to enhance their ability to obtain commissions.

Throughout this unbridled abuse of the professional title the prestigious AIA, with its 23,000 members, has made no significant comment of record. The AF of L, in the person of George Meany, openly condemned as slanderous the use of the term "Plumbers" in connection with Watergate. But the AIA has remained either totally ignorant of similar inferences or has chosen to ignore them, despite the fact they reflect directly on the honor of the profession.

Other areas of activity do not appear to be the victim of liberties of this sort. Neither the legal, the medical, nor the accounting profession, to my knowledge, are treated in such fashion. Yet the average writer feels free to tarnish at will the fair name of the mother of the arts, whose sole transgression was to bear a lot of

wayward children without bothering to name the father.

I desperately deplore the fact that what was once a harmless figure of speech, which added an occasional bit of seasoning to the vernacular, may soon become a worn out cliché to the detriment of the profession's proud record. It will certainly do no justice to the pursuit that, despite certain lackluster phases, has contributed immeasurably to man's image through the ages with no scandal of appreciable dimensions. After all, it was Harry Thaw who killed the architect Stanford White, not the other way around.

About a decade ago, Bernard Rudofsky wrote a fascinating book with the self-explanatory title, "Architecture without Architects." Its contemporary sequel might deal with the burden of this article and be entitled, "Architects without blueprints, or the license to practice for a fee, but who may nevertheless go down in history as 'architects.' "The subject, if properly presented, deserves the same acclaim as its predecessor.

It might start out with the Random House Dictionary definition of architect as "the deviser, maker, creator of anything." The foreword could mention that, "The novelist is the architect of history," a phrase coined by John Dos Passos. It would include quotations from Marshall MacLuhan, who, within the span of ten pages in "Understanding Media," speaks of the printed word as "the architect of nationalism" and of the mere wheel as "the architect of ever-new relations among men." Clifford Irving, who was labelled "architect of the Howard Hughes Hoax," would not be omitted.

Further passages might be devoted to a statement made by Richard Rogers in one of those homey personal interviews for the Westport Fairpress, in which he remarks modestly, "Hammerstein... did the lyrics first, set up the architecture, so all I had to do was find the right notes." I can visualize Oscar, in a grimy waiting room, tapping out rhythms with his impatient foot while waiting for a building permit, and I can hear just the sort of music that would be inspired when he found out that he had violated the building code.

This would be the proper moment to bring in the poet Lessing's famous dictum, "Architecture is frozen music." We would then be informed that Beethoven was architect, as well as composer of nine glorious symphonies, and Haydn of over one hundred. A little later we would be told that Lope de Vega architected (ugh!) as well as authored (eech!) over a thousand full-length plays. Joe Namath, of course, would be hailed as architect of the Jets' victory over the Colts in 1969. The late Vannevar Bush could be introduced as architect of the atom bomb.

As a topical climax, the nation's 468 women architects would be delighted to learn

## Mutrux Retires

Robert Henri Mutrux, AIA, Senior Associate and Director of Fletcher-Thompson, Inc., will retire from that post with the Bridgeport-based architectural-engineering firm on January 1, 1975.

Mutrux joined Fletcher-Thompson in 1950 as a registered architect, having previously worked with Trueblood E. Gaf of St. Louis, MO; Voorhees, Walker, Foley and Smith of NY; Norman Bel Geddes; and William Provost of Stamford, CT.

During his career with Fletcher-Thompson, Inc., Mutrux specialized in the design of university buildings, schools, housing, homes for the elderly and churches throughout New England. His projects include the Mother House for the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Wilton, CT; the Campus Center at Fairfield University, which was this year's winner of the Carlson Award for "architecture of community significance," as well as several other campus buildings; and 3030 Park, the first life-care retirement residence of its type in the Northeast. He was named Senior Associate and Director of the firm in 1966.

A graduate of the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, he received his Masters degree from Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri. He also studied at the Fontainebleau School and the Ecole de Fresque de la ville de Paris in France. He is a registered architect in Connecticut



Robert H. Mutrux, AIA

and is Certified NCARB. He is the President of the Bridgeport Association of Architects, the past President of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, co-chairman of the editorial board of Connecticut Architect, and a frequent contributor to professional journals. He has lectured on Architecture and Environment at the Universities of Fairfield, Bridgeport, Sacred Heart and the College of Notre Dame (Wilton, CT). He is currently a faculty member of the Fairfield University College of Arts and Sciences.

Mutrux resides in Wilton with his wife, Elizabeth, who is also on the faculty of Fairfield University.

that Billy Jean King was not only architect of the sound drubbing administered to Bobby Riggs, but also that she may legitimately use the term "architectress." So help me, the word occurs in the fine print of the Oxford Universal Dictionary.

So they made Imhotep a God. My list of candidates for apotheosis has long ago included Frank Lloyd Wright, Walter Gropius, Le Corbusier, Mies Van Der Rohe, Eero Saarinen, and Louis Kahn; Buckminister Fuller, Pier Luigi Nervi and Paolo Soleri, all still alive and flourishing, merit a front place in the wings.

But the new hagiography will undoubtedly find room for Ralph Nader, Sam Ervin, Sol Hurok, Benjamin Spock, Billy Graham, Charles Manson, Duke Ellington, and a host of others who are all, after all, "architects" in their special fields. In the seventeenth century, Marie-Antonine Careme insisted that pastry-making be included among the fine arts. So why not add Julia Childs to the list?

The book might even turn out to be a best-seller. But I can't suppress a tinge of resentment at the thought. It's not that I

begrudge these illustrious individuals their just due. But I strongly object to the fact that those who would be elevated in this horseback fashion would pay no professional dues, no office rent, and profit enormously by the free publicity. None of them has experienced the labor pains of creation in form and material: the problem of adjusting a structure to a hopeless site, the exasperations of a building committee of laymen, the maddening question of a tight budget are all foreign to them. And yet, at the touch of the typewriter's keys, they become "architects"! It's not exactly what you'd call fair.

I thought for a moment of proposing, say, at the next conference of lexicographers, that those nominated for "architect" on any pretext whatsoever submit to the same examination as the ones who now boast the official shingle. But I summarily abandoned that bizarre notion, because I realized that it might ricochet to my disadvantage. At my point in time, I doubt if I could pass it myself. And I certainly couldn't qualify by any of the other standards.

7

# Putting Your Best Foot Forward

## A PUBLIC RELATIONS PRIMER

by Paul F. Vey

Various tools and techniques of public relations have long been an important part of the architectural profession. Yet, too often, architects equate effective public relations solely with publicity, promotion and elaborate brochures.

Quite simply, public relations is the way an individual or an organization deals with people. Since an architect's only product is service, the quality of that service is the key determinant of people's attitudes. Clients are influenced as much by the manner in which an architectural firm does things as by what it does.

Fundamentally, PR consists of two elements: "P" for performance and "R" for recognition. It is the performance of each individual within an architectural firm, as they carry out the organization's objectives, that eventually cumulates in

Paul F. Vey is Director of Public Relations in the West Hartford architectural firm of Russell Gibson von Dohlen Inc.



public attitudes toward the firm. Consequently, each individual has public relationships — good or bad, like it or not.

On a day-to-day basis, effective public relations consists of a multitude of little things and a few big things. It is the daily application of common sense, common courtesy, and common decency which gives routine business activities a public relations value.

A case in point is the use of the telephone, by which today's business is largely conducted. A caller's impression of an office may be forever molded by the treatment he or she receives on the telephone. A desirable public relations procedure in any office is for the receptionist to tell the person calling whether or not the individual called is available before she asks the caller's name. This procedure indicates to the caller that his or her call is always welcome, whether or not the person called is available.

Large or small, an architectural firm is known by the people who comprise it. Many thoughtful architects involve themselves constructively in the lifestream of their communities. The joining of local organizations is an excellent way of making oneself known to the civic, cultural, and business communities. Such activities give an architect the chance to work for the adoption of sound, civic decisions by influencing key community leaders who ultimately comprise his list of prospective clients.

#### PR Effectiveness

As a general rule, public relations activities should be directed toward promoting on a consistent and professional level the following:

- 1. the architect's services;
- 2. the architect's views;
- 3. the architect's civic activities;
- 4. the architect's clients; and
- 5. the architect's office.

If the architect has nothing of value to offer on any of these elements, then he lacks substance for an effective public relations program.

Effective public relations, therefore, is the practice of evaluating a firm's services in relation to public wants and needs, identifying services with these wants and needs, and communicating this identification to the public. This identification is of paramount importance, since you can only interest people in what you do, show, or say by putting your message in their terms and in the specific areas of their interests.

#### A PR Tool

Publicity is a functional part of public relations, not its equivalent. It consists of information directed to the public, usually via the various news media, and takes the form of news releases, fact sheets, feature stories, magazine articles and architectural photographs. One of the best known sources of publicity for an architect is a successfully completed building, since the architect can work with most clients on publicity which will benefit both parties.

"As far as professionals are concerned," says Weld Coxe, author of Marketing Architectural and Engineering Services, "publicity is always the result of success, never the cause of it." Good publicity, however, serves three purposes: first, it arouses interest in potential clients, alerting them to your firm's activities; second, it presents your firm to the public in as favorable a light as possible; and third, it develops a public respect for and an understanding of the profession in general.

#### **Ethics**

Today's architect faces a practical problem which is not unlike that of a company executive who must somehow convince the buying public that his product or service is better. And yet the operating principles and ethics expected of an architect by those seeking his services are within those bounds of respect and dignity associated with other professionals, such as physicians and lawyers. Departure from these constraints, in fact, creates a negative image among clients and potential clients.

What then should be the architect's criteria in using publicity? In short, never substitute words for ideas and honesty. "Undersell, never oversell," is the rule of the professional public relations practitioner.

Getting publicity without regard to its purpose or effectiveness isn't worth the trouble. Imagination is one of the most important ingredients in effective publicity, but too much may backfire. Imaginative ideas should be executed with dignity and simplicity. If you want public relations results, stay away from press agentry.

#### Integration

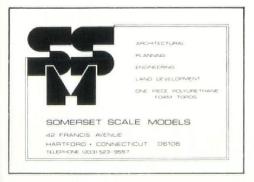
It is no secret that every successful, longrange business development program combines both public relations and direct selling activities. A firm's public relations activities create a favorable and receptive climate for the selling effort, while sales activities consist of locating prospective clients and meeting them face-to-face.

Needless to say, such a public relations/ selling effort soon becomes a functional two-way street. But the success of such a program will depend, to a large extent, on continuous encouragement and direction by top management.

The American Institute of Architects has compiled a wealth of available information on the subject of public relations. The following AIA publications are recommended reading:

Public Relations for the Small Office Speech and Feature Material Kit You and Your Newspaper Miscellaneous Brochures and Periodicals Architects Handbook of Professional Practice – Chapter 8

Whether large or small, your organization is made up of people, and the public deals not with an organization, but with people . . . with individuals . . . with you. In fact, to the public, you are the organization, and what the public thinks of it is up to you!





### On Management: Strategic Planning

"... to do better, we must have a way of distinguishing better from worse." A.M. Rivlin, Systematic Thinking for Social Action

We all plan — we plan our days, meals and special events. We have personal plans for achievement which change with our levels of expectation. And we use strategy to develop a competitive advantage for the plans we make.

Architects plan environments by synthesizing complex arrays of demands and conflicting functions into comprehensible and pleasant structures. Architects are highly skilled problem solvers who are able to think in three dimensions and project design solutions into the future, thereby enabling their clients to assess the impact of major decisions.

Furthermore, architectural firms are capable of successfully applying these strong analytic abilities to the new management concept of Strategic Planning in order to extend the dimensions of both their markets and skills.

John Thompson of UConn's School of Business defines strategy as a firm's "largest common purpose": the general direction which sets policy, controls the tactics and action plans to achieve specific objectives. Strategic Planning is dynamic, cumulative in effect, and long-term in function, continually asking "what's next?"

Professor Thompson urges professional firms to critically assess their "distinct competence": the niche into which their strengths and weaknesses position

their services. Changing or broadening your firm's niche is a challenging task, but the first step is an honest, searching look at where your firm is now.

Management Consultant Michael Hough maintains that well-managed architectural firms will yield such distinct advantages for their efforts as:

- Ability to meet increased competition from non-professional service firms;
- More effective control of internal costs and ability to price professional services:
- Ability to attract and retain good project managers and creative talent; and
- Managerial capacity to handle the increasing complexities of the average project.

Hough offers a checklist for the strategic planning effort within an architectural firm, as follows:

- Establish personal values and list them openly;
- Identify your firm's real competence by an internal audit, and be honest in your assessment;
- Ask your clients what your image is it will differ from your own self-image;
- Look at your immediate environment
   — what are the needs for professional services;
- Examine your competitors what are their capabilities, what can you learn from them; and
- Look for significant changes in technology and in the social economic environment, for new market opportunities for professional services always flow from these changes.

Having decided where it "wants to go" — having identified both new markets and potential opportunities for services — the professional firm must execute an Action Plan which includes:

- Means of developing new capabilities in their staff or recruiting new talent with different skills;
- Re-directing their marketing and promotion efforts;
- Budgeting for the Strategic Plan and respecting that budget; and
- Establishing performance benchmarks to realistically check progress on a regular basis.

Strategic Planning requires a real commitment to self-analysis and the ability to creatively manage change. The buyer of professional services is making a durable investment in the future, and professionals are expected to match that investment with collateral planning efforts to insure their effectiveness and competence over time. However, if you don't care where you're headed, any path will do.

Michael P. Buckley, AIA/AIP



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# The 1974 CSA Honor Awards

"To honor distinguished architectural design within Connecticut, and to develop public awareness of architecture in Connecticut."

Nine building projects in the State received Honor Awards for 1974 at the annual meeting of the Connecticut Society of Architects, held December 5 at the Preston Hill Inn of Uniroyal Headquarters, Middlebury. The winners were chosen from among 79 projects entered by a jury chaired by Anthony Masciarelli, AIA, of Stamford. Others on the panel were Secretary of State Gloria Schaffer; Henry J. Paparazzo, builder and developer of a number of award-winning residential condominium projects in New England; Monte Lee, a planner; and architects John L. Riley of Hartford and Gilbert Switzer of New Haven.

1974 marks the second year in which laymen have been asked to serve on the Awards Jury and, according to Chairman Masciarelli, their judgements did much to enlarge the scope and understanding of the selection process.

A new classification of projects — Renovations and Recycled Buildings — was added this year to the usual categories of Single Family Residence, Multi-Family Housing, and Non-Residential Construction, and two buildings won awards in this category. The first was the Middlebury Branch of the American Savings and Loan Association, designed by the Waterbury architectural firm of Stein, Sapack and Ames, P.C. An abandoned gasoline station was transformed into a warm and welcoming banking facility through the use of a completely new wooden facade, and extensive use of wood in the interior. The second winning project in the rehabilitation category was the Oak Lane Country Club in Woodbridge, designed by Roth & Moore of New Haven. The architects created an overall improvement of the visual and spacial quality of the clubhouse through the application of rough-textured white stucco over both new and old exterior walls, unifying the entire structure. The addition includes a new dining room, cocktail bar, and additional storage areas for golf.

### Residences

"A simple plan with careful attention to detail," was the jury comment on the residence designed by Norwalk architect Alan Resnick for his family in Wilton. The living pattern of the Resnick family called for a design which afforded an easy interrelation of spaces. The glass areas, which capitalize on views of the surrounding landscape, are carefully placed so that they are protected from direct sunlight in summer, yet permit a generous penetration of winter sun.

Open interior spaces, both vertical and horizontal, characterize the second residential winner, a weekend retreat which architect John Harvey of the New York firm of Rosenfeld/Harvey/Morse designed for his own use in Essex. The floor plan of the house provides a variety of visual experiences, with a circular, skylit staircase at one corner.

#### Multi-Family/Condominium Residences

Lyon Farm, a distinguished condominium development of individual detached houses in suburban Greenwich, was cited as "an excellent example of land use that conserves large areas of open space." Designed by SMS Architects of New Canaan, Lyon Farm represents the first application of Greenwich's special planned-residential zone in which the developer may build to the full arithmetic density potential of the land under existing zoning, and the town receives one-third of the acreage in open space in return. The oneand two-story dwellings are grouped around motor courtyards, with views from the major living spaces facing out into the surrounding landscape dotted with ponds and meadows.

In contrast to the style represented by Lyon Farm, a New Haven Redevelopment Authority project for low-income families, sponsored by St. Luke's Church, was cited by the jury for the feeling of individuality and identity provided by its unusual site plan. Louis Sauer Associates of Philadelphia, the architects, were successful in creating "private" spaces in this medium-density urban project.

## **Non-Residential Projects**

An office building, a school, and a library were the recipients of awards in the category of non-residential construction.

The new corporate headquarters for General Reinsurance Company, by Skid-

more, Owings & Merrill of New York, was selected the "most sophisticated and well-designed office structure" by the Honor Awards jury. The occupants of this 165,000-square-foot building have maximum views of the Greenwich Harbor, and an opening under the center section of the building provides further vistas for those entering the office. The jury also cited the waterfront pedestrian walkway and the underground parking facilities as significant planning amenities which make this new headquarters a good corporate neighbor.

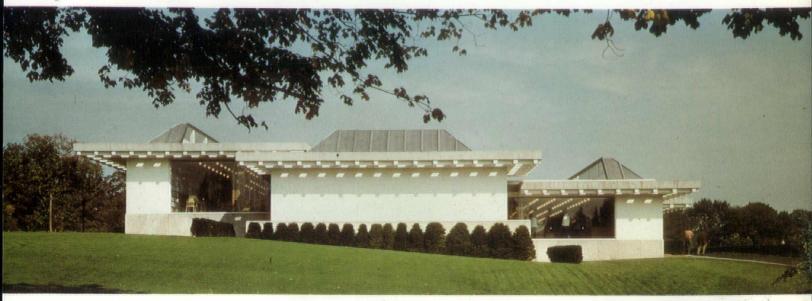
"More than a new high school; a new community center," was the designation bestowed by the jury on the new Norwalk High School complex, designed by The Architects Collaborative of Cambridge, Massachusetts. The building, which follows the contours of its sloping site, angles away from the adjacent street, creating a landscaped buffer which minimized the impact of the structure on the residential neighborhood in which it is set. Furthermore, the separation of community spaces from academic areas was another feature of the overall plan that especially impressed the judges.

The Warren Platner Associates of New Haven received the third award in the Non-Residential category for their design of the Kent Memorial Library in Suffield, Connecticut, Planned as the visual and functional focus for the town, the library consists of a series of levels connected by broad, sloping ramps around a central courtyard, and contains auditorium, gallery and other general-use areas, in addition to the traditional library facilities. The jury was most impressed by the meticulously detailed interiors, with "handsomely selected and creatively used materials [which create] a living room atmosphere for a pleasant reading environment."

"Seldom has the scope of the projects submitted for the CSA/AIA Honor Awards competition been so great," commented Chairman Anthony Masciarelli, "and this year's experience has pointed to the necessity for site visits to those buildings which are being considered for the final awards. Under our existing program, buildings are judged on their aesthetic qualities rather than their functional success, which can really only be determined by on-site inspection. Perhaps this drawback can be overcome in the future."

## Kent Memorial Library Suffield, Connecticut

Jury comment: "Interior meticulously detailed. Materials handsomely selected and very creatively used. A sensitive design. The living room atmosphere of the reading rooms, it was felt, was a pleasant reading room environment."

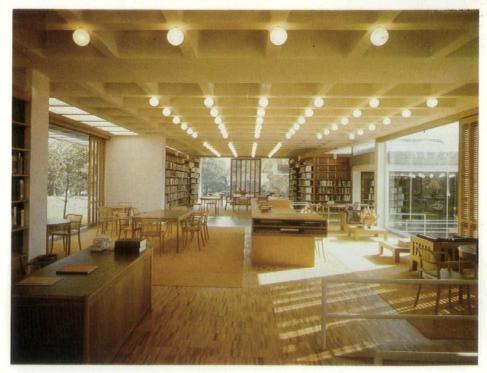


The town of Suffield contracted with Warren Platner Associates for a modern but comfortable library which could double as a community center and meeting house. To catch the attention of the residents, a prominent site was chosen, but it was also decided that the design should not detract from the charming atmosphere created by the eighteenth and nineteenth century homes in its neighborhood.

The masonry structure, with its brick terraces and ramps and granite steps, faces the center of the Green and the intersection of the two main streets. Three pavillions were situated along a slope, with two entrances on opposite sides, and all five levels of the library are connected by ramps encircling an open garden court.

To create a cozy atmosphere conducive to reading and relaxation, the library was designed as a collection of private spaces separated by book-lined walls and alcoves, with windows looking out over the courtyard. The complex also contains an auditorium and screening area, an art gallery, a reception hall, and a meeting room which houses special collections of rare books and such.

Jesse Lyons, Robert Brauer, and Frank Emery headed this project for Warren Platner & Associates. The New Haven architectural firm was founded seven years and is now an organization of over 35 architects and designers. Warren Platner, a much awarded architect of international repute, worked for 15 years with Eero



Saarinen and Associates prior to opening his own practice. His firm is currently engaged in architectural consulting for Water Tower Place, a \$150 million center city commercial development in Chicago.

Architect:

Warren Platner Associates New Haven, Connecticut Owner

Town of Suffield, Connecticut

Structural Engineer:

Pfisterer, Tor & Associates

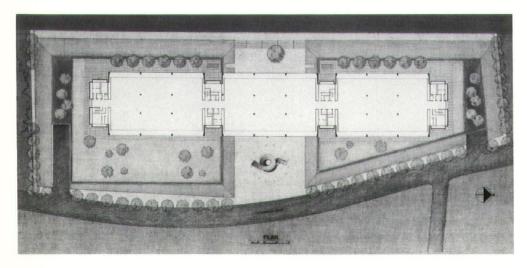
Mechanical Engineer: John L. Altieri

General Contractor: L.B. Construction Inc. Hartford, Connecticut

# General Reinsurance Corp. Greenwich, Connecticut



Jury comment: "Sophisticated and well detailed office structure. The pedestrian water front walking, together with the underground parking garage are significant planning amenities of this project."



Architect:

Skidmore Owings & Merrill New York, New York

Owner:

General Reinsurance Corporation Greenwich, Connecticut

Structural Engineer: Weiskopf & Pickworth New York, New York Mechanical Engineer: Jaros, Baum & Bolles New York, New York

General Contractor: Turner Construction Co. New York, New York

Photographer: Jack Horner



Although the three office levels of the General Reinsurance Corporation in Greenwich can be classified as typical in design, the employees enjoy the unusual privilege of gazing across or strolling along Greenwich Harbor during the lunch or coffee breaks. In addition, the main entrance is located on the water's edge, with visitors' lobbies on both sides of the central passageway. Floor-to-ceiling windows overlook the fully land-scaped grounds.

Each office floor is divided into three, 85foot wide by 145-foot long sections, with mechanical distribution supplied through an air floor system, thereby making it possible for the ceiling's concrete waffles to remain exposed.

Two levels of parking with entrances at opposite ends of the building can accommodate up to 440 cars. The lower level is below ground, and the upper floor is enhanced by grass-planted terraces, which also adjoin the employee dining area.

Since its founding in 1936, the New York firm of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill has pursued diversified work in architectural design, planning and engineering, with a staff of over 800 architects, interior designers, landscape architects, engineers, city planners, urban planners, and supporting specialists. Donald C. Smith, who directed the Greenwich project, joined the firm in 1961 and has been associated with such projects as the Edmonton Centre in Alberta, Merrill Hall for New York University, and the Master Plan for Brooklyn Center.

# Norwalk High Sch



The Architects Collaborative (TAC) of Cambridge, Massachusetts, sited Norwalk High School on the sloping portion of a steep grade and utilized the flat area for playing fields. The largest classrooms of the eight-building academic complex were placed on the highest level, thereby insuring maximum use of natural lighting for all areas.

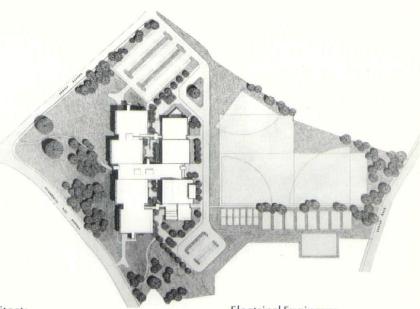
The school is divided into two distinct centers of activity which are separated by courtyards. A typical floor in the academic half contains eight exterior classrooms grouped around a central resource area. The community-use portion is composed of recreational facilities and lounges which remain accessible to the students. as well as the neighborhood. The auditorium is divisible into five parts, each capable of functioning independently, or in combination for a total of 1250 seats.

The entire complex retains a sense of unity through a similarity in building materials and interior details, even though each part differs in size and shape. Both the exterior and interior are framed in exposed concrete, but colorful carpeting, vinyl floors, quarry tiles, together with the effective use of glass, harmoniously create a warm atmosphere.

TAC presently employs 280 persons, most of whom are professionals in architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning, or engineering. Relying on the "project team" approach, the firm has been successful in many fields of endeavor and has earned praise from national as well as local organizations. In 1964, TAC was honored with the AIA Architectural Firm Award, and five years later the firm was selected to design the AIA National Headquarters Building in Washington, D.C. The architects in charge of the Norwalk High School project were Norman C. Fletcher and Leonard S. Notkin.



Jury comment: "Warm in character and not overpowering in scale. Very well detailed, employing a sensible use of materials. Excellent in school plan, particularly the separation of community spaces from academic areas. More than a new high school, a new community center."



Architect:

The Architects Collaborative Cambridge, Massachusetts

City of Norwalk, Connecticut

Structural Engineer:

Souza & True

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Mechanical Engineer: Reardon & Turner Boston, Massachusetts Electrical Engineer: Norman Associates

Canton, Massachusetts

General Contractor: Oneglia & Gorvasini Torrington, Connecticut

Photography:

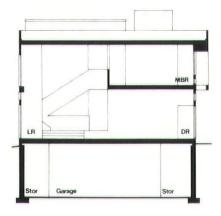
Ezra Stoller

## Resnick Residence Wilton, Connecticut

Jury comment: "A simple plan with careful attention to detail, combined with a dynamic relationship of interior spaces. Strong sculptural composition, successful in meeting stated program requirements."







Westport architect Alan Resnick designed and constructed his family home in Wilton to take full advantage of its surroundings. Situated on a wooded knoll, the attractive white structure with its large, glass areas lets in the sun and allows maximum view of the ever-changing countryside, while the shade trees, together with the persistent breezes, serve as a natural air conditioning system during the warm daylight hours.

To meet the needs of his wife and threeyear old daughter, Resnick opted for open living areas on both levels of the house. The unobstructed spaces make it easier for him and his wife to keep a watchful eye on their active youngster, and the atmosphere reflects their "natural" lifestyle. The subdivision of the larger spaces into smaller areas is achieved with furniture and varying ceiling and floor levels, rather than with walls.

In selecting the building materials, Resnick reasoned that a stucco exterior, when coupled with thick insulation, would provide excellent protection from climatic conditions. This technique, in combination with the careful placement of glass areas, helps keep the house comfortable in both winter and summer without excessive fuel costs.

A 1970 Pratt Institute graduate, Resnick studied with Leonardi Ricci during a leave of absence in Florence. The product of a family of architects, Resnick holds the distinction of being youngest architect in Connecticut to pass the state's license exam. Before joining his father in the Resnick Partnership in 1973, he was involved in land planning under the auspices of HUD and the Federal Housing Administration.

Architect:

The Resnick Partnership Westport, Connecticut

Owner/Builder:

Alan Resnick

Consulting Engineer: Peter Szilagyi & Associates Hugh Sweeney, P.E.

Photographer: Martin Tornallyay

## Harvey Residence Essex, Connecticut

In planning his weekend retreat in Essex, New York architect John Harvey made maximum use of a self-imposed limit on floor space by rearranging three levels of rooms within the geometry of a simple cube. The guest rooms were placed on the first floor and the master bedroom on the third to insure privacy. The house itself faces the Falls River, but remains protected from neighbors and passersby. The public areas, which include the living and dining rooms, comprise the second floor and open onto a terrace with a picture sque view of the river and wooded landscape. Vertical and horizontal openings between rooms and a skylit circular staircase add visual interest to the interior and exterior, and facilitate circulation.

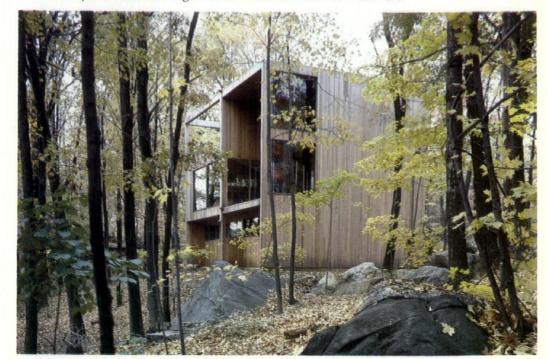
Harvey, a principal in the New York architectural firm of Rosenfeld/Harvey/ Morse, refers to his Essex home as a family project, since he and his wife cooperated in the design, construction and interior design of their country hide-away. Before joining the firm in 1970, Harvey worked for Kaplan & McLaughlin (New York and California), James S. Polshek (New York), Ulrich Franzen & Associates (New York), and Gerald McCue & Associates (San Francisco). A 1965 University of New Mexico graduate, he participated in the Paolo Soleri Seminar during the summer of 1964.

Rosenfeld/Harvey/Morse is currently concentrating its efforts on the renovation of a 16-story office building in Midtown Manhattan, a five-building industrial complex in Pennsylvania, and a two-building Maryland complex. With the help of a newly acquired computer, this group of architects and financial experts can now provide its clients with financial analysis and feasibility programming, in addition to the traditional architectural services.

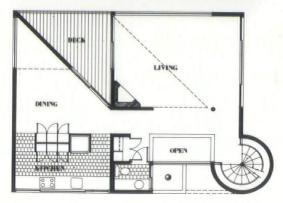
Architect: Rosenfeld/Harvey/Morse New York, New York

Owner/Builder: John C. Harvey

Photographer: Dave Sagarin Jury comment: "Handsomely blending with its surroundings, this house has an interesting plan. Small in area, the relationship of the various spaces are well organized. A sensitive use of materials."

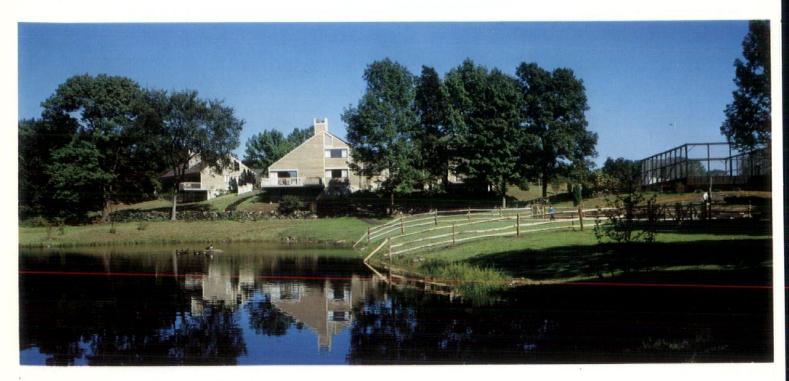






# Lyon Farm Greenwich, Connecticut

Jury comment: "Well designed single family residences. The 'cluster zone' concept for single family living, proven successful and attractive. An excellent example of land use that conserves large areas of open space."





Architect: SMS Architects New Canaan, Connecticut

Owner: C.E.P. Associates Greenwich, Connecticut

General Contractor: Veggo Larsen Co. Hamden, Connecticut

Consulting Engineer: Sanford O. Hess Greenwich, Connecticut

Photography: Martin Tornallyay

The developers of Lyon Farm, a condominium project of 201 homes in suburban Greenwich, were the first to take advantage of the new special residential zoning which provides Greenwich with a one-third return on the acreage used by the builders under the existing zoning. At Lyon Farm, the town received 36 of the 120 acres. Of the remainder, 48 acres have been developed and 36 comprise buffer zones which will remain open and undeveloped.

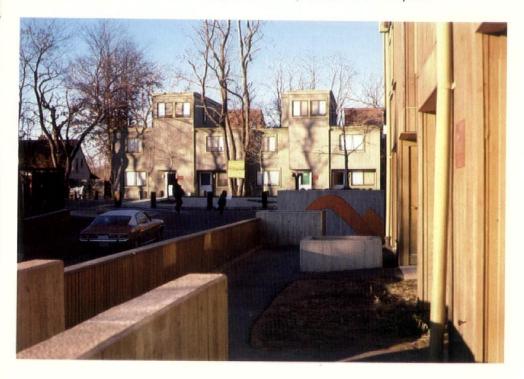
Each cluster of the detached homes in the development shares a common motor courtyard, and the major living spaces have been designed by SMS Architects of New Canaan to face ponds and meadows. The average home has three bedrooms, with a fenced front garden, a terrace on the back or side, and a twocar garage. The steeply sloping, shingled roofs have a minimal overhang, and the soft woodtone colors of the clapboard siding were selected to complement the natural beauty of the woodland setting. The original farm's barn has been renovated to serve as a clubhouse and recreational facility.

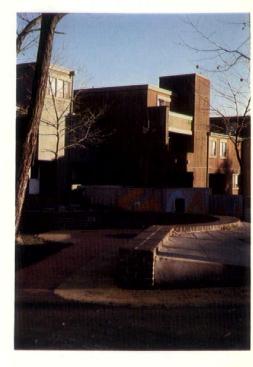
This year's Honor Award to Lyon Farm is the seventh such CSA/AIA citation awarded to SMS Architects since the program was initiated in 1965. The firm has a diversified practice and three principals — Willis N. Mills, Jr., AIA, who was the architect in charge of the Lyon Farm project; Gray Taylor, FAIA; and A. Raymond Von Brock, AIA; plus two senior associates and a staff of 12.

Current projects include a health care facility in New Canaan; equipment buildings for AT&T in Bridgeport and Worcester (Mass.); and libraries in Bristol, New Canaan, and Larchmont (New York).

## Canterbury Gardens New Haven, Connecticut

Jury comment: "Basic dwelling unit requirements combined with a feeling of individuality and identity. Interesting urban street town house solution. Site plan exploits the vehicular ways, giving the feeling of a private street, while affording a sense of 'private' exterior space."





Architect:

Louis Sauer Associates Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Sponsor:

Parish Church of St. Luke New Haven, Connecticut

Developer:

New Haven Redevelopment Authority New Haven, Connecticut

Builder:

Kapetan, Inc. Orange, Connecticut

Structural Engineer:

Joseph Hoffman and Associates Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

Photography: Monica A, Wolff

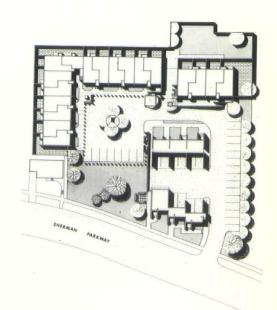
The architect in charge of the Canterbury Gardens project, Lawrence Chapman of Louis Sauer Associates in Philadelphia, cooperated with the New Haven Redevelopment Authority and St. Luke's Church in New Haven in creating "private spaces" for low-income families in the city.

The direction of the design was determined by a survey which revealed the functional needs of the community. Chapman decided on the simplicity of

wood frame construction, covered with plywood siding and a natural stain. The exterior facade and paved areas were then enlivened by colorful supergraphics spilling down walls, over asphalt and into corners. Built on one and a half acres in a medium-density area, the living units were designed to offer the tenants a sense of privacy, as well as the security of community living.

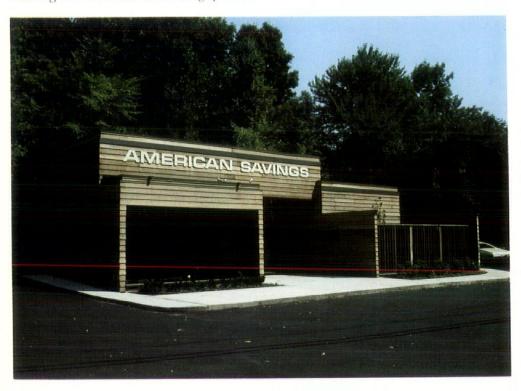
Chapman received his bachelor of architecture degree from MIT in 1968 and joined Louis Sauer Associates the same year, working his way up from draftsman to associate. He previously served as design assistant with William M.C. Lam & Associates in Cambridge, Mass.

Louis Sauer Associates boasts extensive architectural and planning experience in housing and community development. A partial client list would include the New York State Urban Development Corp., Corning Glass Works, and the Oakland Mills Village Center in Columbia, Maryland.



## American Savings Bank Middlebury, Connecticut

Jury comment: "A visually pleasing change from a porcelain gas station to a warm and welcome banking institution. Restraint of materials used provides consistancy. Interiors are well designed and detailed making excellent use of existing spaces."



Architect:

Stein, Sapack & Ames, P. C. Waterbury, Connecticut

Owner

American Savings & Loan Association Waterbury, Connecticut

Structural Engineer: Joseph Carlson, Jr. Shelton, Connecticut

General Contractor: The John C. McCarty Company Waterbury, Connecticut

Mechanical Contractor: F. F. Laviero Bristol, Connecticut

Electrical Contractor: Hyland & Barnes Waterbury, Connecticut

Photography: Barry Rabinowitz





Robert Sapack and Harris Feinn of Stein Sapack & Ames successfully transformed a gas station in Middlebury to a cozy and inviting branch office of the American Savings and Loan Association.

Using the solidly constructed building as their framework, the principal-in-charge and the project architect erased all evidence of its previous function by incorporating new projected and recessed spaces and adding warm touches to both the interior and the exterior.

The former service station is located on Route 6A, a major connector between Waterbury and Middlebury, and bounded on three sides by steep slopes. Although the one-quarter-acre site restricted the amount of development, there is fortunately adequate land area for the facilities and parking.

As part of the transformation, the original porcelain exterior was covered with redwood siding, and the interior spaces of the teller stations, customers' waiting area, and staff lounge were decorated with colorful but semi-formal furniture and carpeting. The intelligent use of space and selection of materials by innovative architects prove that recycling can be a viable, aesthetic, as well as economical, alternative to erecting an entirely new structure.

Stein Sapack & Ames of Waterbury is an active and diverse practice whose three principals are Joseph Stein, FAIA; Robert A. Sapack, AIA; and T. Gregory Ames, Jr., AIA. A partial list of recent projects would include the East End High School, Waterbury; the SNET Co. office in Waterbury; Sealectro Corp. factory; Waterbury Hospital Mental Health Facility; and the Queens Terrace Apartments, Southington.

# Oak Lane Country Club Woodbridge, Connecticut

Jury comment: "An outstanding renaissance. The successful addition of the new dining area together with the other exterior modifications give this facility a welcome new look."



Architect: Roth and Moore Architects New Haven, Connecticut

Owner:
Oak Lane Country Club
Woodbridge, Connecticut

Structural Engineers: Spiegel and Zamecnik New Haven, Connecticut

Mechanical Engineers: Hubbard Lawless & Osborne Associates New Haven, Connecticut

General Contractor: Chapel Construction Co. New Haven, Connecticut



The "outstanding renaissance" of the Oak Lane Country Club was achieved by the renovation techniques of architects Roth & Moore. The ten-year-old club required a new dining room, cocktail bar and additional golf bag storage.

The new storage area was built adjacent to an existing locker room, and the bar and dining facilities were placed partially above this area, creating new interest by slightly altering the dining room floor levels.

The expansive view of the golf course through insulated glass walls was shaded from the sun by the construction of broad, covered walkways on the south and east. Incidentally, the cocktail bar overlooks the eighteenth hole of the golf course, with an easy access from the outside. The lovely view was further enhanced by the development of a small garden on the other side of the glass-walled lounge. This area is enclosed by a high, curved wall which functions as a shield against the western sun during the day and against the headlights in the driveway in the evening.

To increase the scale of the approach to the clubhouse, a porte cochere which can accommodate four cars was added at the main entrance. The crowning touch to the entire exterior of the clubhouse was the application of rough, textured white stucco to unify the effect.

The two principals in this architectural firm, namely Harold Roth and William F. Moore, have recently completed two additional projects — staff housing for the Ausable Club in upstate New York and the renovation of the Long Wharf Theater in New Haven. Current projects include indoor swimming and skating facilities at Waveny Park, New Canaan; the New York offices of VanLeeuwen Advertising; and restoration of a mid-nineteenth century structure in the Brooklyn Heights National Historic District.

Three projects were awarded Citations of Special Merit by the Awards Jury. Top: Solar House, Westbrook; Middle: Captain's Walk, New London; Bottom: The Groton Sewage Treatment Facilities.







## Citations of Special Merit

Three projects entered in the 1974 Honor Awards competition were given citations of special merit by the panel of judges, in the hope that the innovations employed in their design will become prototypes for future projects.

Donald Watson, AIA, of Guilford, was cited for his design of a three-bedroom residence that will obtain approximately 60% of its annual space and water heating requirements from a modular flat-plate solar collector system. Additional energy conservation features include: a separately zoned second floor that can be isolated from the rest of the house when not in use, in order to reduce space heating requirements; clerestory windows on the roof to maximize natural light and ventilation; and overhangs over the windows designed to shade summer sun and reduce heat gain.

Captain's Walk, a major portion of New London's State Street which has been converted into a pedestrian semi-mall, was cited by the jury for the bold change it has created in the heart of the city.

Johnson and Dee of Avon were the land-scape architects, aided by SMS Architects of New Canaan, who designed the mall's shelters and lighting. "The idea of returning a city street to pedestrian use represents a significant step forward," commented the panel, "in the first downtown pedestrian mall in a major Connecticut city."

A sewage treatment plant with administration and operations buildings and related pumping sub-stations for the town of Groton was given the third special commendation by the 1974 Awards Jury. The Boston architectural firm of Huygens & Tappé, working under the direction of the Brighton, Mass. engineering company of Hayden, Harding & Buchanan, was given the assignment to provide the design for the architectural enclosure and overall aesthetic coordination for the various elements of the system. The jury called this, "a significant project in which a public agency has considered the aesthetic as well as the engineering aspects of the facility." Great care was also taken in the siting and design of the complex to conform in scale and configuration with the residential character of the neighborhood.

## 1974 Lay Person Awards and Presidential Citations

Each year, the Connecticut Society of Architects/AIA searches out Connecticut citizens outside the field of architecture who have contributed significantly to environmental quality, whether through excellence in community design, the creation of greater awareness of the environment, or social action leading to community betterment and better living for its people. The winners of the 1974 Awards are:



Harlan H. Griswold



Rev. Arthur E. Higgins



Paul J. Manafort



**Bradley Biggs** 

#### HARLAN H. GRISWOLD

"For his untiring efforts to preserve historically and architecturally significant buildings in the Waterbury area as a concerned individual, and on the state level as Chairman of the Connecticut State Historical Commission."

### THE REVEREND ARTHUR E. HIGGINS

"For his leadership in programs that have provided housing for the elderly and the poor, thus changing their lives for the better."

Mr. Griswold, retired chairman and chief executive officer of the Waterbury National Bank, has been active for many years in the area of historic preservation, serving as chairman of the State Historical

Commission and as State Preservation Officer, overseeing the preparation and updating of Connecticut's Plan for Historic Preservation. In addition to his significant efforts and evaluations in applying the "adaptive use" concept to the preservation, he has also shown a knowledge and interest in all fine architecture, regardless of style, and has encouraged contemporary design over the use of pseudo-traditional forms.

Arthur Higgins, Minister of Church and Society for the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, has achieved both state and national recognition for his leadership in developing programs for community betterment throughout Connecticut, including housing projects for the elderly and for low-income families. He has also assumed

a leadership role in attempts to bring cable television systems to the state.

In addition to the traditional Lay Person Awards for 1974, CSA/AIA President David La Bau also bestowed citations expressing the profession's special appreciation to Paul J. Manafort, Commissioner of Public Works, and to his deputy, Lt. Col. Bradley Biggs (USA retired). The presidential citations read: "On behalf of the Connecticut Society of Architects/ AIA, we wish to commend you for your leadership in fostering cooperation and communication between the State Public Works Department and the design professions. Your personal attention, availability, and willingness to share our common problems and concerns have created an atmosphere for progress which, we trust, will be long lasting.

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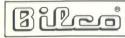
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## **CSA Receives Public Relations Grant**

The Connecticut Society of Architects has been awarded a major grant from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Public Relations Program. The \$1500 AIA award — to be augmented by the Connecticut Chapter — will be used to explore new concepts in design and landuse planning for the State of Connecticut, in tandem with a proposed land-use series on Connecticut Public Television (CPTV Channel 24) during 1975.

Michael Buckley, AIA/AIP, author of the grant request, defines the scope of the effort: "Connecticut's committees represent a unique mosaic of land-use situations, ranging from the traditionally cohesive New England village, to masonry mill towns, sprawling industrial complexes and high-rise urban concentrations. We know that we can do a better job in Connecticut to create what we want from development while preserving what we value. We all realize that a proper balance between conservation and development is essential to induce economic activity yet satisfy our environmental and esthetic concerns. This grant will enable Connecticut architects, together with other design professionals, to address an extraordinarily broad subject and audience."

## Leonardo da Vinci Exhibit

Van Carlson, AIA, a member of the Executive Committee of Sacred Heart University's Regional Council (Bridgeport) announces that the IBM-sponsored Leonardo

da Vinci Exhibit will open on Sunday, January 19, 1975, at 5:00 p.m. and will continue through the following week on the main floor and lower level of the school's library.

The exhibit will feature models, sketches and representations of Leonardo da Vinci's works of art, including buildings, sculpture, construction cranes, helicopter, canal, cannon, spring-driven car, ship design, printing press, rotating bridges, military tanks, and clocks.

Admission is free of charge, and booklets describing the artist's life and work will be distributed to all visitors.

The University Library was designed by Carlson's architectural firm in Shelton.

## **Undergraduate Education Conference**

On January 10 and 11, 1975, the Architectural League of New York, in cooperation with the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning, and the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, will sponsor a conference concerning the methodologies, goals and structure of various types of undergraduate, non-professional programs in architecture within the liberal arts college.

Representatives from Columbia, The Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, Rice, Stanford, S. U. N. Y. at Old Westbury, and Yale will present their programs. Other speakers will discuss the relationship between these programs and the larger questions of humanistic education.

There is a registration fee of \$40 per person, which will cover the conference literature, receptions and meals. For further information, contact the Architectural League at (212) 628-4500.

### **HAC** in Review

The Hartford Architecture Conservancy, a non-profit organization committed to increasing public awareness for conserving "the built environment," is celebrating the completion of one year's hard work in preservation, with such projects to its credit as architectural exhibits, walking tours, and studies of restoration plans for the city's old neighborhoods.

The agency's most recent success was in saving the Chauncy Harris School from demolition by the city. Working with some interested citizens and officials, HAC arranged for a group of Boston architects to examine the possibility of converting the School into apartments.

HAC's future plans include establishing a revolving fund, whereby the organization would buy and renovate threatened buildings and then offer them for sale to the public. Profits from the sales would go toward buying and renovating other structures.

Verbalizing on the agency's sense of urgency, HAC President Tyler Smith explains, "We should look to 'found space,' 'adaptive' use, and 'recycling' as the tools to bring about Hartford's urban renaissance ... [for] what is at stake now is the life of Hartford — economic, social and cultural."



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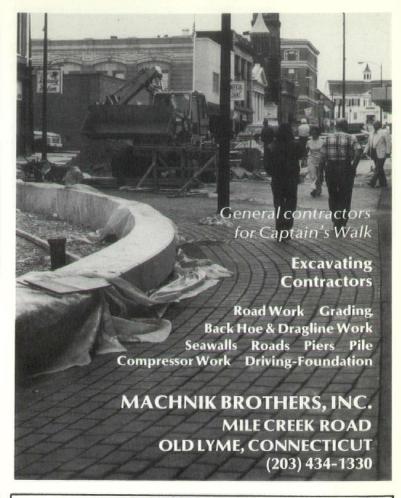


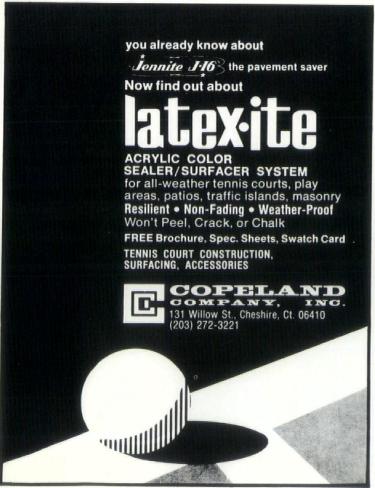
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CA staff: (standing, from left to right) H. Evan Snyder, Editor-Publisher; Monica A. Wolff, Design Director; and (seated) Natalie Korsheniuk, Associate Editor.

## **CA Wins Regional Honor**

Connecticut Architect has been recognized by the Yankee District of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) as the best external publication in New England, with less than 5.000 readers.

The bi-monthly magazine, published by Communiconn Publications, Inc. of Hartford, was honored for its effectiveness as a public relations vehicle and a source of information for Connecticut's architects.

The commemorative plagues were awarded on November 9 in Boston, and the award winners were displayed at Prudential Center during the organization's fourday conference.

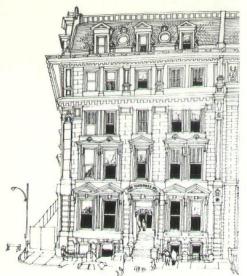
Membership in the IABC Yankee District is composed of public relations personnel from Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont. The purpose of this contest was "to recognize communicators who have produced outstanding publications or communications programs during the past year."

## **Welling in Hartford Show**

The Wadsworth Atheneum (Hartford) has announced the opening of a two-man show in January, featuring the drawings of Richard Welling, who was interviewed in the May-June issue of Connecticut Architect, and Mary Shipman's watercolors.

Sponsored by the Hartford Architecture Conservancy, the exhibit will be open to the public from January 16 through March 14, 1975.

The works will focus on Hartford's architectural heritage, past and present, rang-



Richard Welling's drawing of the Hartford Fire Building

ing geographically from the South Green area to Asylum Hill, and including the Mark Twain House and the Municipal Building.

## **Governor Appoints Cohen**

Governor Meskill has appointed Andrew S. Cohen, FAIA, of Waterbury, to serve a third, five-year term on the state Architectural Registration Board.

Cohen has been active in state and national professional affairs, serving as treasurer. vice president and president of the Connecticut Society of Architects. He was originator and first editor of Connecticut Architect magazine, published by the

As secretary and chief administrator of the Registration Board since 1966, he formulated procedures for reciprocal registration with other states and paved the way for Connecticut to use an examination recently developed by the National Council of Architectural Boards, for which he served as director for four years.

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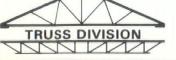


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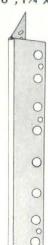
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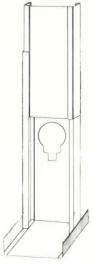


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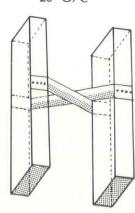


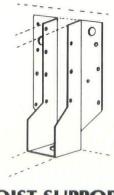
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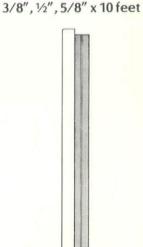
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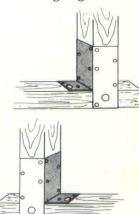


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Heritage Sound, designed by SMS Architects, received HUD award.

## **HUD Awards Heritage Sound**

A Milford condominium community, designed by Carrell McNulty, Jr. and Robert Steinmetz of SMS Architects, has received one of five National Home Awards for superior project design.

The award for Heritage Sound was presented to Henry Paparazzo, president of the Heritage Development Group, by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, D.C.

### CHFA Allocates \$30 Million

The Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) has authorized the immediate allocation of \$30 million for its Home Mortgage Purchase Program. Of the \$30 million, \$24 million will be allocated to participating lenders, \$4 million for forward commitments to builders, and \$2 million for special programs.

This brings the total amount allocated by CHFA for the home mortgage program in 1974 to approximately \$85 million.

The new allocations to participating lenders are being made on the basis of a three-month period expiring February 28, 1975.

## LaBelle Among the 'Outstanding'

John R. LaBelle, a senior staff member of DuBose Associates, a Hartford architectural and planning firm, has been honored as among the Outstanding Young Men of America in 1974.

LaBelle is president of the Board of Directors of the Putnam Area Chamber of Commerce and a part-time student at Greater Hartford Community College. Active in civic affairs, he serves as chairman of the local Energy Conservation Committee and assistant treasurer of the Putnam Housing Authority and Redevelopment Agency.

His past responsibilities include the cochairmanship of the 1974 Putnam Heart Fund Drive and chairmanship of the Putnam Community Development Action Plan Agency.

LaBelle is a member of the American Society of Planning Officials, an Associate member of the Connecticut Society of Architects, and a Third Degree member of the Cargill Council Knights of Columbus.

He resides with his wife, the former Janet Cormier, and their two daughters in Putnam.



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Houses Architects Design for Themselves, edited by Walter F. Wagner, Jr. and Karin Schlegel, McGraw-Hill, New York, \$16.95.

Sixty-one architects describe the variety of obstacles they successfully faced in designing a home for themselves and their families. Such design challenges as problem sites, restrictive budgets, family needs and preferences, and the desire to experiment with forms are discussed in detail. Descriptions of those homes which shared the same basic determining factor are grouped together and lavishly illustrated. Walter F. Wagner, Jr. served as assistant managing editor of House and Home and is presently editor of the Architectural Record. Karin Schlegel has worked as editorial assistant for Architectural Record Books.

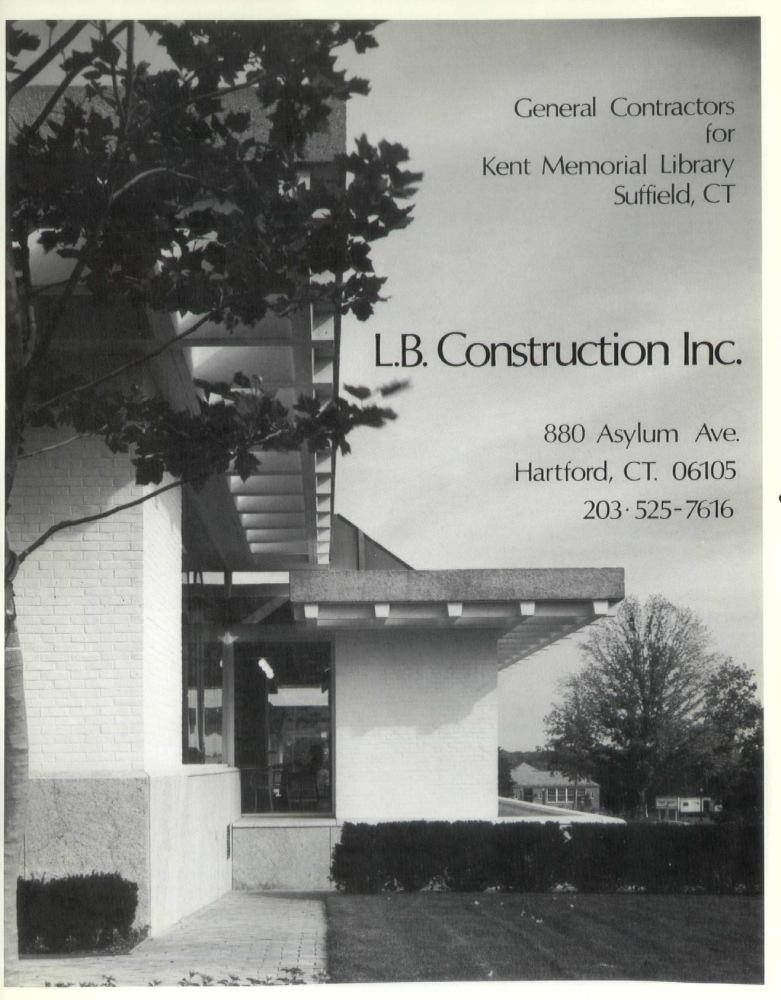
Water and Landscape: An Aesthetic Overview of the Role of Water in the Landscape, by Litton, Tetlow, Sorenson, and Beatty; Water Information Center, New York, 314 p.p., \$11.50.

Three professors and a research assistant from the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of California examine the many ways in which water can be used to enhance the environment. The result of their research establishes the first, concrete set of principles for visually classifying fresh water streams and bodies, thereby creating criteria for the aesthetic quality of landscape.

Architectural Working Drawing Check List I, 52 p.p., Architectural Working Drawing Check List II, 62 p.p., Architectural Rules of Thumb, 60 p.p.; Guidelines Publications; Orinda, California: \$5.50 each.

Each of the two Check Lists contains 1500 working drawing components. The first volume deals with commercial, institutional and other heavy frame building construction, and the second one focuses on residential and light frame construction. Fred A. Stitt, California architect and president of Guidelines, comments on the need for such a conclusive compilation of facts and figures: "... Lapses in information are the obvious major cause of those extras that pop up at the building site. What's most frightening is that about 80% of all lawsuits involving architects arise from simple omissions, as well as outright errors in the contract documents.'

The Rules of Thumb was designed to save draftsmen and designers time in searching for basically routine information. A collection of tips from experienced architects and engineers, the book serves as a handy reference manual.



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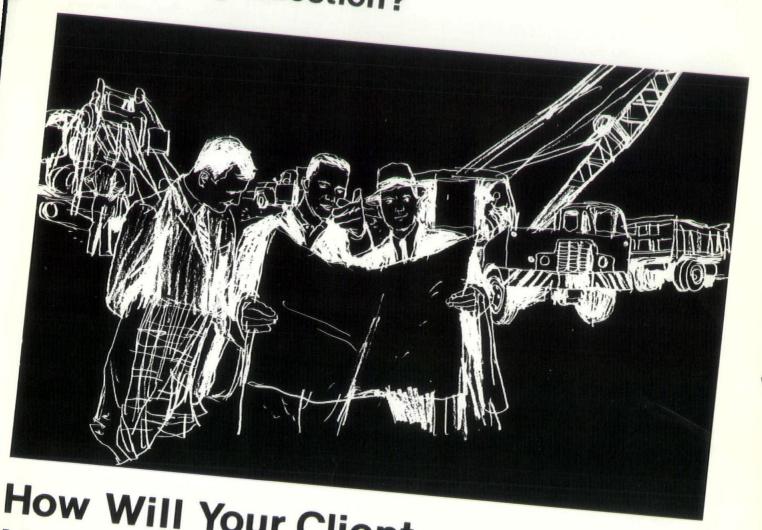
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